



22ND OCTOBER, 1937.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
ON HOUSING CONDITIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS
IN THE BOLLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT.

LOCAL FEATURES. The Urban District of Bollington is situated four miles north-east of the Borough of Macclesfield. The populous part of the District lies in the valley of the River Dean; levels vary from 900 feet O.D. on the north-east and south-east boundaries to 440 feet O.D. on the western boundary.

The majority of the inhabitants are engaged in the cotton industry - three large cotton spinning mills being situated within the district. Other industries include Paper Staining, the manufacture of Electric Light Bulbs and Rope&Twine. There are also several Stone Quarries in the district and Coal Pits and Fire-clay Works at Pott Shrigley, two miles from Bollington.

STATISTICS

Area in acres 1,442.
Population (1921) 5,094. (1931) 5,027. (Now estimated) .. 5,017.
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1936) 1,580.
Rateable value£22,156.
Product of a ld. rate £84.

Outstanding loans:-

Sewerage and sewage disposal £8,184.
Water £6,558.

WATER SUPPLY. The urban district is adequately provided with water by the Local Authority. The Council's water undertaking is situated in the parish of Rainow, two miles south of Bollington, the water being obtained from boreholes in the Millstone Grit.

70,000 gallons per day from boreholes at Lower House, Rainow, flows into an adjacent main storage reservoir of 100,000 gallons capacity, at an altitude of 794 feet O.D. This water is chlorinated before entering the reservoir on account of the slight risk of pollution after rainfall.

120,000 gallons per day is pumped into the main reservoir from a borehole at Dane Bent and two other boreholes adjoining the River Dean at a point where it crosses the Macclesfield - Whaley Bridge Road.

A mill-pool adjoining the main pumping station is used to operate a turbine pump, which results in very economical pumping costs. An oil engine and an electric motor are installed as a stand-by for use when the River Dean is low.

With the exception of a few isolated farms and cottages, mains water is laid on to every house in the district.

Water is also supplied in bulk to the Macclesfield Rural District Council for the adjacent parishes of Adlington, Butley, Pott Shrigley, Prestbury, and Rainow.

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The developed portion of the district is adequately sewered to an outfall works consisting of tanks and bacterial filters which are discharging satisfactory effluents.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of domestic and trade refuse is carried out by the Local Authority. The work appears to be efficiently carried out. The majority of the houses are provided with galvanised iron ashbins but objectionable ashpits still exist on the undermentioned premises:-

1 - 9 Princess Street.)	Two ashpits in large common yard.
2 - 6 Ledley Street.)	
4 - 10 Palmerston Street.	Ashpit in common yard.
1 - 3 Ledley Street.	Large open ashpit.
38- 48 Princess Street.	Large ashpit.
50- 56 Princess Street.	Open ashpit.
1 - 7 Adlington Road.	Ashpit in common yard.
33- 39 Adlington Road.	Ashpit in common yard.
53- 65 Water Street.	Ashpit in common yard.
67- 71 Water Street.	Ashpit in common yard.
29, Palmerston Street.	Open ashpit in common yard.
2 - 18 Beeston Mount.	Three large ashpits.
Pair of cottages, rear of-)	
22 Shrigley Road.)	Large ashpit.
5 - 19 Lord Street.	Large ashpit.
52- 58 Shrigley Road.	Ashpit in common yard.
2 - 12 Redway.	Ashpit in common yard.
5 - 19 Church Street.)	Ashpit in common yard with
2 - 12 Hope Street.)	defective roof and doors.
1 - 5 Vine Street.)	

Many of these ashpits, which are roofed brick structures provided with close-fitting doors, could not be abolished under the Public Health Acts 1875 - 1907, so long as they were kept in good structural condition.

The Public Health Act, 1936, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1937, now empowers a Local Authority to require the provision of covered ashbins.

Refuse is tipped on a site in open surroundings, well removed from dwelling-houses. The controlled tipping system is adopted and the site is maintained in a satisfactory condition.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are three slaughterhouses in the district, all of which were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Periodical visits are made by the Sanitary Inspector during time of slaughtering.

UNADOPTED STREETS.

The following unadopted streets in the village of Bollington are in an unsatisfactory condition:- Cocksheadhey Road, Silver Street, Turner Street.

The Surveyor states that action is being taken under the Private Street Works Acts to put them into a proper state of repair.

DAIRY FARMS.

There are 22 dairy farms in the district, 12 of these were inspected. The following table shows the conditions met with. All the milk producers were advised in their own interests to improve their cowsheds so as to qualify for the production of "Accredited" Milk. Several stated their intention of carrying out improvements with this object in view.

Details of the defects met with were supplied to the Sanitary Inspector in June so as to give him an opportunity of effecting the necessary improvements during the summer months.

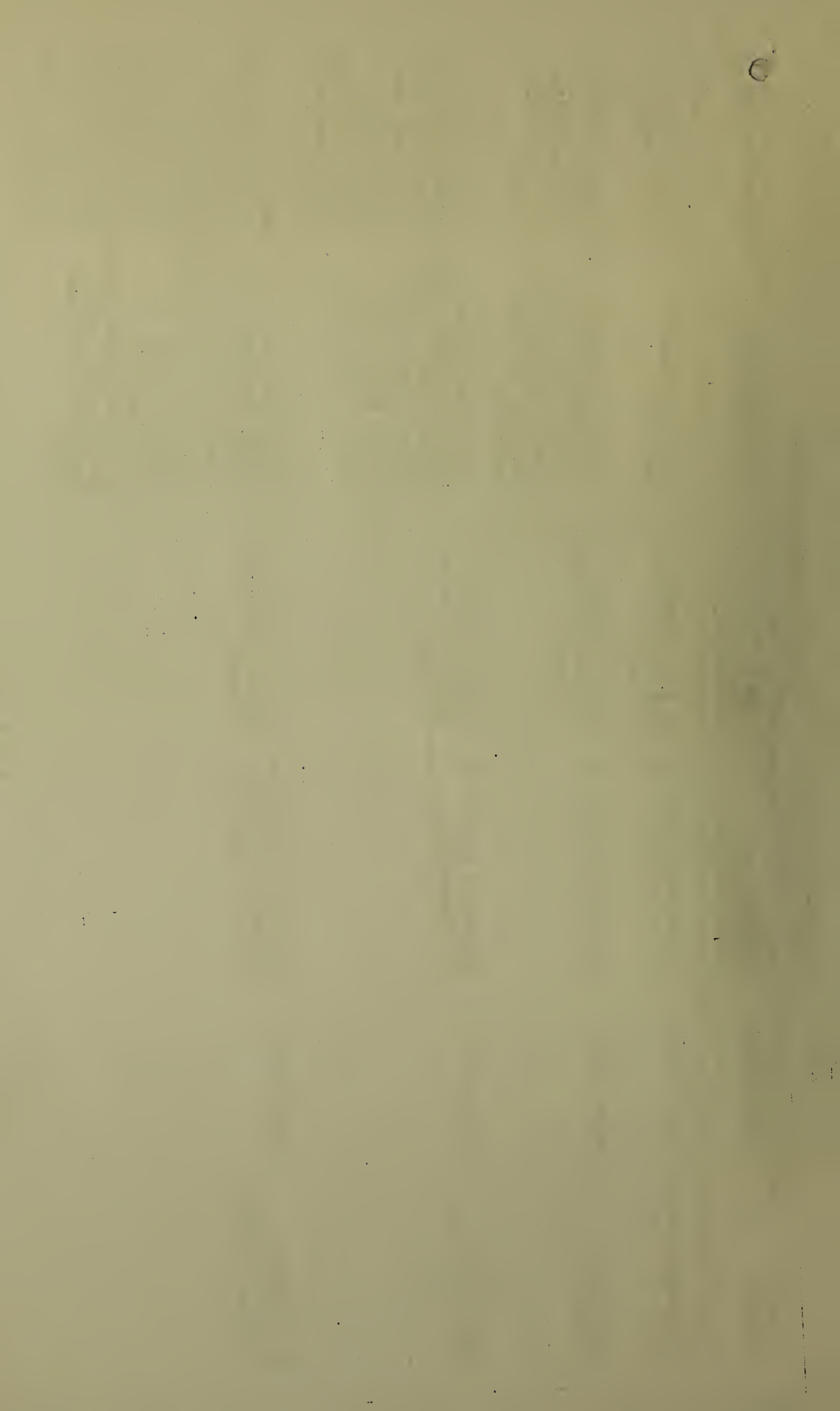
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Each of the five elementary schools in the Urban District have been inspected with regard to water supply, sanitation and structural condition.

In June a copy of the following Table of Defects was supplied to the Director of Education for attention.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - BOLLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

<u>SCHOOL.</u>	<u>WATER SUPPLY.</u>	<u>WASHING ACCOMMODATION.</u>	<u>SANITATION AND DRAINAGE.</u>	<u>OTHER MATTERS.</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
Bollington Cross C. E.	Mains water.	Wash-hand basins in all cloakrooms.	Water closets. Drains connected to sewer.	Boys' playground unpaved.	Pave playground with tarmac.
Bollington Council	Mains water.	Wash-hand basins in all cloakrooms.	Water closets. Drains connected to sewer.	Surface drains in boys' playground partly choked. Badly worn floorboards in Hall used for physical training.	Renew worn floor boards. Clear surface drains in boys' play- ground.
Bollington St. John's C.E.	Mains water.	Wash-hand basins in all cloakrooms.	Water closets. Drains connected to sewer.	Worn floorboards in hall on ground floor. Uneven stone flagged floor in entrance porch. Boys' play- ground paved with uneven stone setts.	Renew worn floor boards. Take up defective stone flags and re- pave entrance porch. Pave surface of boys' playground with tarmac.
Bollington St. John's C.E. Infants' School.	Mains water.	Wash-hand basins and portable enamelled bowls in cloakroom.	Water closets. Drains connected to sewer.	Badly worn floor- boards in both class- rooms. Defective wall plaster near entrance door. Eaves guttering broken on roof of entrance porch and W.C. structures. Playground paved with uneven stone setts. Unsatisfactory open ashpit.	Renew worn floor boards in class rooms. Repair defective wall plaster and eaves guttering Pave surface of playground with tarmac. Abolish open ashpit and provide galvanised iron ashbins.

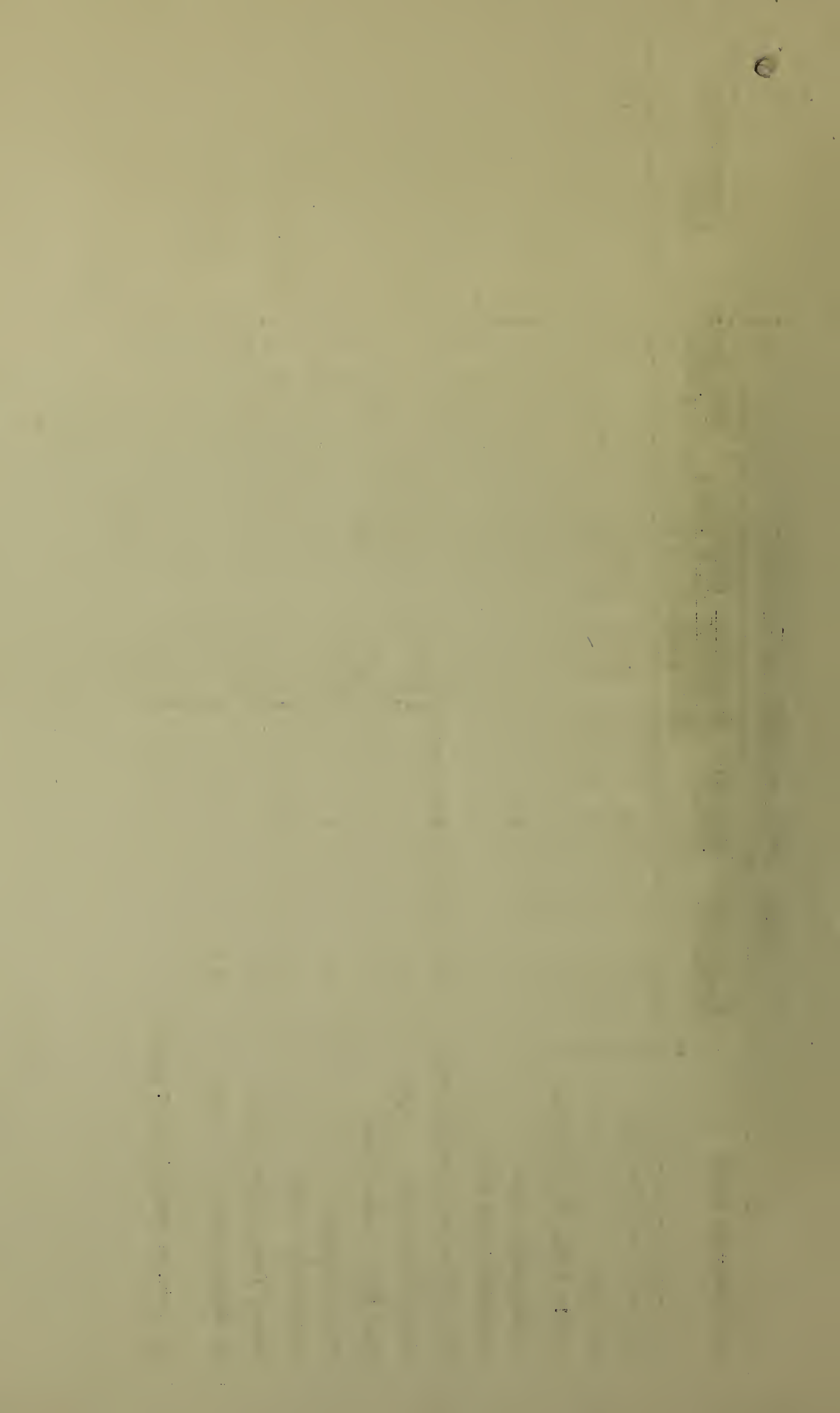


<u>SCHOOL.</u>	<u>WATER SUPPLY.</u>	<u>WASHING ACCOMMODATION.</u>	<u>SANITATION AND DRAINAGE.</u>	<u>OTHER MATTERS.</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
Bollington St. Gregory's R. C. School.	Mains water.	Wash-hand basins in cloakrooms.	Water closets. Drains connected to sewer.	Internal wall plaster defective, walls and ceilings require distempering, weather boards required on front and side entrance doors. Leaking boiler on heating system. Surface of playground unpaved. Uneven stone flags and unsafe stone step (14" high) to front entrance door. No entrance gates provided in playground.	Repair defective plaster. Distemper both classrooms. Provide weather boards to entrance doors. Repair or renew boiler on heat- ing system. Take up uneven flags and alter step to front door. Pave and drain surface of playground and provide entrance gates. A small room used for stores should be re- floored and decorated for use by Staff and visiting County Council Staff.

DAIRY FARMS - TABLE OF DEFECTS.

<u>SITUATION OF FARM.</u>	<u>NO. OF SHEDS INSPECTED.</u>	<u>DEFECTIVE FLOORS.</u>	<u>INADEQUATE LIGHTING & VENTILATION.</u>	<u>DEFECTIVE LOFT FLOORS.</u>	<u>DIRTY WALLS OR FLOORS.</u>	<u>UNSATISFACTORY DAIRY.</u>
Adshead Farm, Cow Lane.	1	1	1			
Nab Farm.	1	1	1		1	1
Dawson Farm, Kerridge (A)	2					
Cocksheadhey Farm.	3	2	1		1	
Stakehouse End Farm.	1	1	1		1	
Old Hollin Hall, Hurst Lane.	2	2	1			
Garden Lane Farm. (A)	1					
Moss Farm, Lower House.	2	1	1	2	1	1
Rookery Farm.	1	1	1		1	1
Coldharbour Farm.	2	2			2	1
Hobson Farm, Clarke Lane.	1		1			
The Mount Farm. (A)	1					

(A) Denotes "Accredited" Farm.



HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The majority of the houses are of the artisan type containing two or three bedrooms and two living rooms. They are usually built in terraces; many are constructed of local stone, which is also used in the construction of roofs, the paving of living rooms and yards.

Generally, the houses are solidly built and appear to be maintained in a reasonable state of fitness. All the houses in the built-up area have an internal water supply, washing boiler, sink, and drain connected to the sewer. Practically all the houses are on the water carriage system, only 16 pail closets and 28 privy ashpits remaining in the unsewered area.

During a detailed inspection of the district it was noted that a large proportion of the older houses have shallow sandstone sinks, many of which are badly worn. The porous stone is difficult to keep clean, and the shallowness of the sink causes splashing and fouling of the wall and floor. This type of sink should be replaced with a glazed earthenware sink.

There are a number of houses without adequate means of ventilation owing to the window frames being of the fixed type. A common type of bedroom window is a fixed frame divided into small panes (7" x 4"), of which only one pane is capable of being opened. This type of window was observed on the following premises:-

25 - 31 Lord Street,	Seven back bedroom windows.
1, 3, 5, Allen Street,	Three back bedroom windows.
10 - 22 Lord Street,	Five front living room windows.
	Seven front bedroom windows.
	Four back bedroom windows.
86 - 94 Church Street,	Two back bedroom windows.
70 - 84 Church Street,	Seven back bedroom windows.
	Three back kitchen windows.
50 - 68 Church Street,	Four back kitchen windows.
	Five back bedroom windows.
9, 11, 13, Ingersley Road,	Three back bedroom windows.
22 - 36 Shrigley Road,	Eight back bedroom windows.
Court adjoining 22 Queen St.,	Three back bedroom windows.
	One back kitchen window.
19 - 23 Bollington Cross,	Three back bedroom windows.
37 - 39 Bollington Cross,	Two back bedroom windows.
	Two back kitchen windows.
50 Princess Street,	One back bedroom window.
Moss Lane, Lower House,	Six back bedroom windows.
5, 7, 9, Wellington Road,	Three back bedroom windows.
11 - 17 Water Street,	Three back bedroom windows.
	Four back kitchen windows.
33 - 39 Adlington Road,	Four back bedroom windows.

The following are examples of unsatisfactory housing conditions which require attention:-

17, PALMERSTON STREET.

A disused stone outbuilding which is in a ruinous and dangerous condition, should be demolished.

19, 21, PALMERSTON STREET.

The back kitchens of these houses are deprived of light and air by a disused and dilapidated bakehouse which is only six feet away from the back kitchen windows. This should be dealt with as an obstructive building and demolished.

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10a, 10b, CHURCH STREET. These are a pair of four-roomed cottages situated in a large common yard or court at the rear of terrace houses which front on Church Street. The living room windows are only five feet away from the rear wall of the terrace houses causing the living rooms to be so dark that artificial light has to be used during the daytime. 10b, has no back door, the walls are damp and perished, rain water pipes are defective.

These cottages are badly placed and should be demolished to open up the yard space of the adjoining terrace houses. One ruinous and derelict stone cottage, and an adjoining outbuilding in this court should also be demolished to improve the air space at the rear of the Church Street terrace houses.

36, LORD STREET. The gable wall of No.36 is damp and perished. The ground being three feet above the living room floor. A stone retaining wall, 8' high at the rear is bulged and insecure.

40, LORD STREET. The ground abutting on the house wall is on a level with the back bedroom floor causing serious dampness.

22, LORD STREET. The ground against the gable wall is three feet above floor level causing dampness.

1 - 13, TURNER STREET. Dilapidated outbuildings in common yard.

5, QUEEN STREET. This stone cottage, at the end of a terrace, is badly placed, the ground abutting on the gable end wall is above the level of the bedroom floors and on a level with the roof of the scullery. The back kitchen is inadequately lighted. Small confined back yard. Improved light and air space at the rear are required.

3, 5, 7, MOSS BROW. Three privy-middens require converting to water closets.

9, 11, 13, MOSS BROW. Three privy-middens, with defective roofs, require converting to water closets.

13, MOSS BROW. The back kitchen is rendered dark by a dilapidated and unsafe lean-to wooden wash-house which has been built against the kitchen window; this should be demolished as an obstructive and unsafe building. The back bedroom is also inadequately lighted - one window having been walled up - and floor and walls are defective. Eaves guttering is defective causing dampness, defective washing boiler and stone sink.

28, 30, 32, ADLINGTON ROAD. The eaves guttering and rain water pipes are defective and part missing causing serious dampness. Nos. 30 and 32 have no back doors.

39, ADLINGTON ROAD. Eaves guttering and rain water pipe missing on rear main roof



1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, MOUNT PLEASANT.

Back houses 16a, 16b, 16c, SHRIGLEY ROAD.

14a, SHRIGLEY ROAD. This group of cottages is built at varying levels on steeply rising ground at the rear of houses fronting on Shrigley Road. The cottages are badly placed - having a steep and difficult approach from the Street - light and free circulation of air are prevented by small confined back yards six feet in width enclosed by the stone retaining wall of a garden which is ten feet higher than the level of ground floor rooms. In four instances through ventilation cannot be provided on account of the ground lying against the rear walls of the cottages almost up to the level of the eaves.

16a, 16b, 16c, Shrigley Road are built within six feet of a stone retaining wall 16 feet high which obstructs light and free circulation of air from the back kitchens and back bedrooms.

14a, Shrigley Road has one small living room and scullery and one bedroom, there is no front entrance door, and no yard space; no washing boiler or food pantry.

These cottages should be dealt with under Housing Act as a Clearance Area.

29, 31, 33, OLDHAM STREET. These cottages are situated at the rear of terrace houses fronting on Oldham Street. They are built with the back wall abutting on to a paper mill which renders it impossible to obtain through ventilation. The small scullery of the centre cottage is without any light. No food pantries. The cottages are badly placed and should be demolished.

COTTAGE - REAR OF 50, SHRIGLEY ROAD.

A single stone cottage containing one living room, one bedroom and a lean-to scullery. No back door or through ventilation. This cottage is badly placed in relation to the adjoining houses, obstructing light and air space from the back kitchen of No. 52, Shrigley Road. The tenant is an elderly woman living alone. The cottage should be closed and demolished at the end of the present tenancy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Authority should be requested to take action with regard to the following matters:-

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Conversion of the remaining pails and privy ashpits to water closets. The abolition of dry ashpits and the substitution of galvanised iron ashbins under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

HOUSING.

The repair or demolition of the unfit houses specified in this Report.

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DAIRY FARMS.

The improvement of Dairy Farms in accordance with the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order.

UNADOPTED STREETS.

The improvement of the unadopted streets mentioned in this Report.

IAN MACKAY.

County Medical Officer of Health.



1871